

• C o u n t e r p o i s e •

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volume XLVII

January 2006

Number 1



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon meets every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church of El Cajon. The address is 867 South Lincoln Ave.

Next meeting:

January 12, 2006 7:00 pm

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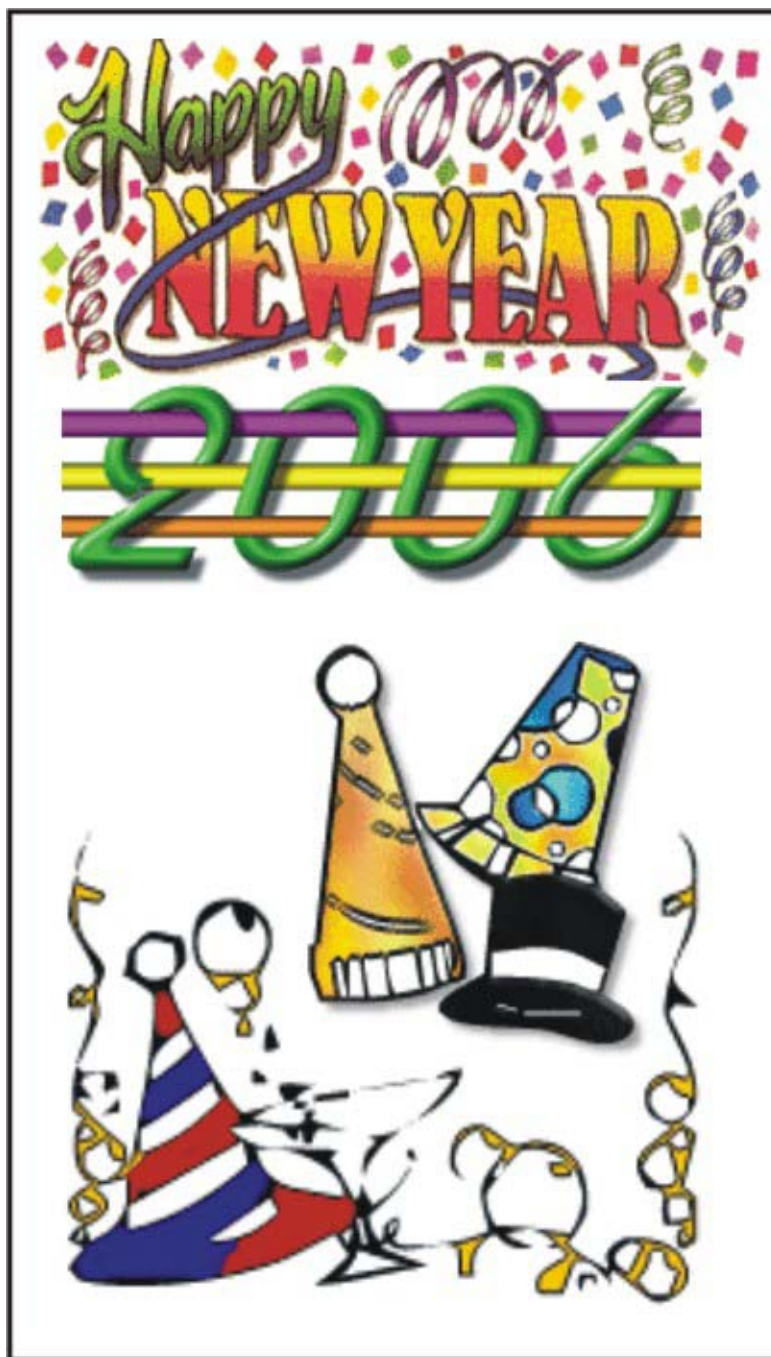
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All Official written communication is to be submitted to:

A.R.C.E.C. P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022
The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the club. We also encourage input from members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor.

Paul Rios at:
kc6qls@cox.net or by post
1237 Victor Ave #4, El Cajon, CA 92021
The Deadline is Sunday after the General Meeting.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
Web Site: <http://www.wa6bgs.org>



Repeater is almost up! Visit the Web site for information. www.wa6bgs.org

2006 Officers

President	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Vice-President	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928
Secretary	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Treasurer	KF6WXA	Susan Kochel	445-6067
Past President	KG6JCW	Mike "Stogie" Panger	263-4439

2006 Board of Directors

Affiliated Clubs	AE6AV	Larry Plummer	460-1818
Public Service	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Prizes	WA6PPG	Carl Ferree	328-2694
Membership	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Welcoming	AE6QW	Gordon Shackelford	561-6323
Social	KD6PRV	Anselmo Ruiz	574-0720

2006 Standing Committee

Club Attire	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928
SANDARC Delegate	K5WFW	Len Fulbright	258-1322
Public Relations	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Counterpoise Editor	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Education	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Estate Sales	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Field Day	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928
Health & Welfare	OPEN		
Historian	OPEN		
Net Manager	KG6TDP	Mike O	444-9090
Post Mistress	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Technical	W6RHV	Bob Boehme	448-4728
Swap Meet	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Bylaws	KF6XY	John Cordle	697-2175
WA6BGS Trustee	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
WAMO	W6LKK	Erich Bennett	401-7332
Web Master(s)	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928

Staff and Writers:

KC6QLS	Paul	Editor
AI6O	ED	Vice President
N6OPH	Mike	Meeting minutes
	Tassy	HAM Spot Light
W6LKK	Erich	WAMO Report
W5COM	Tom	Jokes
N6NKJ	Rich	The A.R.E.S Connection
WA6MHZ	Pat	Crest Radio Museum
	Bridget	Photos

Pre-Registration

2006 ARRL Southwestern Convention
At the web site www.sandarc-conv2006.org



From The President

Paul KC6QLS



Happy New Year to all. I would like to thank the successful outgoing administration for all their efforts this past year. They got things done and provided many club events like Field Day. I will do my best to serve the club and hope to move it into a new phase. My number one goal is to get more members into the Club. We are going to try some new ideas; and I would like to put FUN back into Ham Radio. Please be prepared to volunteer as much as you can. I can remember when I first joined the club back in the late 80's and we did so much, WAMO was a big thing, the prize table was to die for, and the club was a lot of fun. Let's ride the float all the way to the next Parade. Keep in mind that what you put into Ham Radio is what you get out of it.

Paul KC6QLS

AI6O	FELTER FINANCIAL GROUP, INC Financial and Estate Planning
	Ed Felter, President
8080 La Mesa Blvd Suite #113 La Mesa CA 91941 Phone: (619) 668-0929 Fax: (619) 668-5666 E-mail: edfelter@pacbell.net	

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

General Membership Meeting
8 December 2005



The general membership meeting of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon was called to order by club president Michael "Stogie" Panger, KG6JCW at 1900hrs.

SECRETARY'S REPORT was approved as published in the *Counterpoise*.

TREASURER'S REPORT was read by Susan, KF6WXA. It was approved as read and filed for audit.

PRESIDENT Panger awarded the plaques for last month's winners of the home brew contest. The current count for the Christmas party is 47. The party will be held on 9 December.

The ballot counting committee consists of Tom, N6JOJ, Mike, AE6CQ and Eric, W6CCM. This evening's program is the election of officers and the selection of the "Ham of the Year."

PUBLIC SERVICE Chairman Rich, N6NKJ reported on the Ocotillo Wells event to be held in January. Rich thanked all of the participants of all of the ARES events for the calendar year of 2005. Don, KG6DRO also reported on events of 2005. He also spoke on the 1918 flu pandemic and the correlation with the present bird flu epidemic. This has a ham radio tie-in as this would hit the hospitals and the need for volunteers to help work at the hospitals.

The election was then conducted. During the break, the ballots were counted.

Paul, KC6QLS presented his slide show of the Mother Goose Parade float.

The election results are as follows:

PRESIDENT: Paul Rios, KC6QLS

VICE PRESIDENT: Ed Felter, AI6O

SECRETARY: Mike Maston, N6OPH

TREASURER: Susan Kochel, KF6WXA

Board of Directors:

Ann Rios, KC6TBG

Anselmo Ruiz, KD6PRV

Carl Ferree, WA6PPG

Gordon Shackelford, AE6QW

Larry Plummer, AE6AV

Rich Beisigl, N6NKJ

The officers and board will take office on 1 January 2006.

SANDARC, EDUCATION & FINANCE Report was given by Mike, N6OPH. He reported that he is still searching for a venue for the class. He received several suggestions for a class venue. The finance committee will be meeting in the later part of December. Mike also reported that the San Diego City Council is attempting to pass a 35' antenna ordinance and described SANDARC's effort to derail such legislation. There was a lengthy discussion on this topic. Mike, N6OPH announced that tickets for the convention are available and the necessary form can be downloaded at the convention website at:

www.sandarc-conv2006.org.

The Christmas party will be held on 9 December at the VFW hall in El Cajon starting at 1900hrs.

There being no further business before the general membership, the meeting was adjourned at 2040hrs.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael Paul Maston, N6OPH
Secretary
Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Repeater Update

The repeater is on the hill; it was tested and it works. I hope by the time you get this in the mail the antenna was installed. If not it should be very soon. Please visit the web site for the info and more photos of the repeater. So program your radios and get ready for WAMO night.



From The Vice President AI6O ED



Happy New Year!

I hope this finds everyone well and enjoying the New Year so far. Hope every one had a very Merry Christmas.

I am indebted to all the club members for this opportunity to serve ARCEC in this capacity. I look forward to working with and supporting our President, Paul KC6QLS. I believe this is going to be a fantastic year. I encourage all to get on board, get your membership paid up if you haven't already done so and let's work together for the success of the club. This is a great club made up of fine people. Together we can accomplish great things.

I am committed to having an interesting speaker or program for each and every month the club meets. If you have ideas for programs, a demo, an interesting speaker, let me know and I will do my best to incorporate your suggestion into the schedule.

Your club attire needs will still be a concern of mine. I am working on new resources for a good selection of T-shirts, caps, and jackets. Let me know your need.

ARCEC has always had a great Field Day. I will be coordinating Field Day, 2006. I need all the help I can get, and I know we are going to work together to make it a great success. Call/Contact me and let me know how you will help.

Let's warm up the air waves with renewed interest in the WAMO nets. We can do it!

Thanks to all who are serving on the Executive Committee and the Board. Each one is integral to the success of the club. More importantly, ALL members have an opportunity to pull together and make 2006 a tremendous year. You are needed! Call me at any time.

73 and Straight Ahead!

Ed Felter, AI6O

WA6BGS Nets

Mike Oberbauer:
Mike Oberbauer:
Frito

KG6TDP
KG6TDP
N6WKB

Net Manger
Net Controller
Wide Open Nets

WAMO NETS:

Wednesday and Saturday Nights
8:00 pm local time 7:30 "Checkins"

10 Meters: 28.480

Tuesday Night Rag Chew net:

8:00 pm

Nets held on club repeaters

WA6BGS Repeaters

2 Meters SANDRA Repeater

Output 146.265 "Otay"

Input + Split

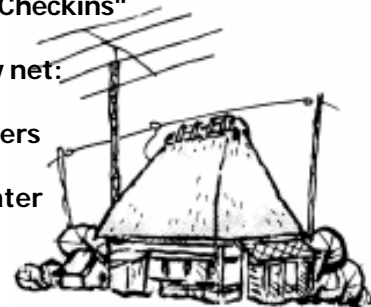
PL 107.2

RX 146.475 (147.420) 107.2 PL

RX 224.480 – 107.2 PL

RX 445.900 – 107.2 PL

Don't miss it. All members welcome.



Club Attire

***** Shirts on hand. Call for Sizes *****

Get your jackets, hats and t-shirts.

Show off your club colors and let all know that the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon is strong and growing.


Calendar of Events January 2006

Jan.	1:	New Years Day
Jan.	3:	Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Jan.	7:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
Jan.	7:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
Jan.	12:	General Meeting, 7:00 pm
Jan.	14:	ARES Meeting, 8:00 am
Jan.	18:	SANDARC Meeting 7:00 pm
Jan.	21:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
Jan.	21:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm

The Counterpoise is also online in FULL COLOR. Check it out and the club's website at: www.wa6bgs.org

Get your advanced copy by e-mail. I will send it out in .PDF format the night it goes to print. E-mail me and let me know that you would like a copy. Size of file maybe up to 1.5 mb at times.

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El Cajon, CA 92019



Tom Mc Duffie KM6K, Manager
5375 Kearny Villa Road
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 560-4900 or 1-800-854-6046

Change of Address

Moving?

Do not miss an issue of the Counterpoise. Fill out the Change of address form below.

Call _____ WAMO# _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
New Address:
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to Membership Chairperson:
A.R.C.E.C./ P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

ARCEC Membership Application

1. Amateur Call Sign	2. Class of License
3. First Name	4. Last Name
5. Street Address	6. City, State, Zip+4
7. Home Phone	8. Work Phone
May we list: Y N	
9. DOB	10. e-mail
11. ARRL Member Yes no	12. ARES Member Yes No
13. RACES Member Yes No	14. Sponsored by: or Family Member

Return this form with check made payable to the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon or ARCEC for new or renewal membership. Annual Dues \$18.00 for Individual, \$30.00 for family. New members add \$5.00 per member. Include your call on Check. Mail to
Membership Chairperson
A.R.C.E.C, P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

New () or Renewal ()	WAMO Number
Certificate Issued	Dues from _____ To _____
Paid Cash ()	Check No.
Check ()	Date Paid:

Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Ann Rios KC6TBG, and she will send you the database back as an attachment. She uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to 619-593-9445 or KC6TBG@cox.net

FUN PAGE

Birthdays January

January 1	N6LCH	Carl	Palechek
January 2	N6OEK	Steve	Frick
January 5	WA6PTZ	George	Kochel
January 6	AD6O	Jim	Quinn
January 6	A6BKR	Tony	Hernandez
January 7	N6WKB	Frito	Samano
January 7	WA6LNF	Edward	Redman
January 7	KG6NNU	Bob	Nowak
January 10	W6TAI	Tam	Hodgson
January 11	KE6PW	Roger	Brown
January 13	KG6WGN	Brett	Newbould
January 18	NoCall	Rios	Mona
January 22	KG6FBV	Calvin	Tyler
January 23	KB9WFS	Brian	Churchwell
January 25	KN6CB	Doug	Konishi
January 27	KG6BWN	Nicholas	Utschig
January 29	KB6HEW	Frank	Martin
January 29	K6UMA	Joe	Mc Cormick
January 29	WA6PPG	Carl	Ferree
January 29	K6KGW	Michael	Koffler

Did I miss your Birthday or is yours next month?
E-mail me: KC6QLS@cox.net

Word Search "New Years Day"

H	A	P	P	Y	N	E	W	Y	E	A	R	B	J	M
S	Y	J	A	L	E	N	F	L	Q	V	E	G	Y	I
E	J	H	R	D	W	I	N	E	G	L	S	F	L	D
L	G	D	T	H	L	X	H	W	V	W	O	N	I	N
D	V	F	Y	D	A	N	C	I	N	G	L	W	M	I
N	W	N	Q	L	W	A	Q	X	B	L	U	P	A	G
A	P	H	N	V	S	N	L	A	H	Z	T	T	F	H
C	H	A	M	P	A	G	N	E	Q	P	I	A	L	T
Q	F	I	R	E	W	O	R	K	S	X	O	M	D	H
N	Y	D	H	D	G	W	L	A	V	P	N	A	V	Q
O	H	B	W	R	V	B	Y	J	Z	P	S	L	H	P
I	C	H	E	E	R	V	F	D	A	J	X	E	D	W
T	F	D	V	F	G	F	R	I	E	N	D	S	G	D
A	I	N	E	W	Y	E	A	R	S	E	V	E	W	N
C	O	U	N	T	D	O	W	N	A	G	N	D	B	G
A	B	F	Q	G	B	F	H	G	B	Y	L	Q	L	S
V	W	V	Y	E	R	A	U	Q	S	E	M	I	T	J

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CANDLES | <input type="checkbox"/> HAPPY NEW YEAR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAT | <input type="checkbox"/> MIDNIGHT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHAMPAGNE | <input type="checkbox"/> NEW LAWS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHEERS | <input type="checkbox"/> NEW YEARS EVE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CIDER | <input type="checkbox"/> PARTY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTDOWN | <input type="checkbox"/> RESOLUTIONS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DANCING | <input type="checkbox"/> TAMALES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY | <input type="checkbox"/> TIME SQUARE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FIREWORKS | <input type="checkbox"/> VACATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FRIENDS | <input type="checkbox"/> WINE |

Jokes "Captain Bravado"

Long ago, there lived an officer of the Royal Navy named Captain Bravado. He was a brave man, who showed no fear when facing his enemies. One day, while sailing the Seven Seas, his lookout spotted a pirate ship approaching, and the crew became frantic. Captain Bravado bellowed, "Bring me my red shirt!" The first mate quickly retrieved the captain's red shirt, and while wearing the brightly colored frock, the Captain led his crew into battle and defeated the pirates. That evening, all the men sat around on the deck recounting the day's triumph. One of them asked the Captain, "Sir, why did you call for your red shirt before battle?" The captain replied, "If I were to be wounded in the attack, the shirt would not show my blood. Thus, you men would continue to fight, unafraid." All of the men sat and marveled at the courage of such a brave man. As dawn came the next morning, the lookout spotted not one, not two, but TEN pirate ships approaching. The crew

Continued Page 8

Last Months Word Search

W	I	N	K	G	R	I	E	O	N	S	F	R	E	J
J	P	E	L	A	T	V	E	S	A	D	Y	G	L	
K	U	J	D	V	F	G	Q	N	H	T	L	F	G	T
A	D	H	J	S	J	H	P	V	Y	J	Q	W	N	S
Z	O	G	K	L	W	T	R	E	E	P	H	E	O	D
Y	P	F	O	H	F	S	W	N	T	O	K	N	G	L
A	H	A	M	N	S	E	C	K	T	O	Y	S	C	N
D	K	S	L	I	D	E	J	M	S	H	P	O	H	T
S	D	E	C	O	R	A	T	I	O	N	S	F	Q	D
A	A	N	U	N	A	T	L	L	Y	A	P	E	Y	N
M	S	B	F	L	D	H	F	K	N	O	X	H	P	A
T	H	D	I	H	I	V	D	I	J	E	C	Z	J	M
S	E	H	D	G	O	Q	A	C	K	S	W	V	Y	W
J	R	E	S	H	N	L	F	S	N	K	O	F	C	
R	P	C	O	O	K	I	E	S	W	J	D	C	N	N
H	X	F	T	R	E	E	D	N	I	A	R	Q	L	S
C	P	R	E	A	S	A	N	T	S	K	J	W	L	P



It sometimes seems that good things get stuck, through no one's fault, it just happens. People may or may not notice, and might not think anything of it if they do. But there's some that do. Sometimes one of those people stands out, without trying, and helps get things moving again. Paul Rios, KC6QLS, WAMO #948, is just that person. And through his "let's do it" attitude, he's become the center of this month's spotlight.

Born and raised in Lakeside, California, Paul took interest in the technical world of radios and gadgets at six years old. Throughout his school years, his interest grew and he enjoyed learning about it. In 1988 he and his wife, Ann, met Nick Callas K6DBJ at The Del Mar Fair, who introduced them to Amateur Radio. They were impressed by its appeal, hobby and value alike and earned their licenses in 1989. Paul and Ann joined the El Cajon Club in 1989 and later rejoined in 2003 where Paul took over the Counterpoise and participated in several events like Field Day, the Mother Goose Parade Float and other committee service events. He appreciates the "taking action" attitude that others share with him and earned Ham of the Year for his leadership.

Paul likes computers and spends time tweaking the radios in his Ford Explorer "Antenna Farm" he's well known for driving around town. There have been a few

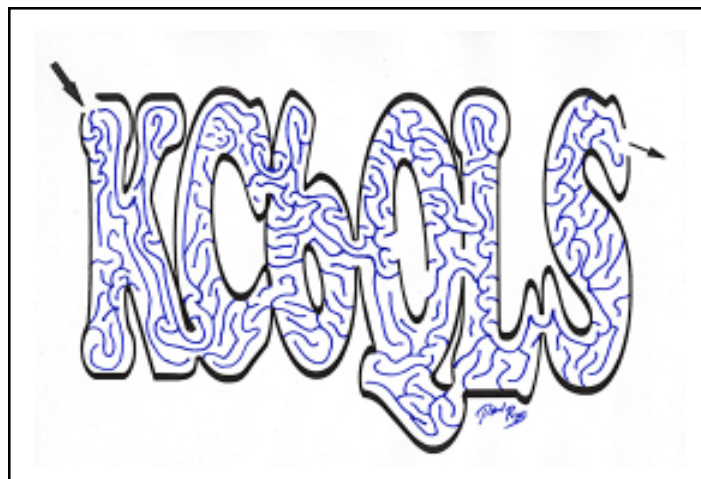
instances in his Ham life where he has helped out the community while others fumbled with their modern technology. Like many Hams, during the Fire Storms in 2003, he knew the status of the flames well before news broadcasters, and he assisted with radio traffic with the North Ridge earthquake as well. Paul is currently the El Cajon Club President, and plans to get the club more involved with the community, and promote the hobby and its important role in communication during emergencies. With the support of other driven Hams, he hopes to encourage the youth to get involved in Amateur Radio and move the club in a forward direction.

No longer just a voice on the radio, the spotlight shines on KC6QLS! 73!

By Tassy Rios, Staff Writer



MAZE



The Editor's
Corner
KC6QLS Paul



I have six more Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul, and it has gotten a lot of positive feedback. I would like to ask all the members to think about writing a story or a column similar to it. The newsletter has come a long way from the first one. I'm hoping to find some of the older ones, "maybe the first one," and do a reprint. Let's keep the Counterpoise fresh and fun to read.

Take care 73,
Paul Rios Editor

Public Relations

You will find in this Counterpoise an article from KY6LA Howard White. I will post his ongoing quest to keep his Tower up. I know a little what he is going through being in an anti antenna zone myself. After talking to the property owner and the fires hit, he saw the benefits of it and told me by all means put them up. Just keep it low profile. If you drive by, you will see two loops thanks to Mike KG6WLS and a 40 meter bazooka thanks to Tom W5COM. Now, of course, this is only for local repeater work and is in no way set up to help out the world or our east coast disaster aid, like KY6LA system. We need to support KY6LA in his right to this tower.

Paul Rios
Public Relations

Continued from 6

stared in worshipful silence at the captain and waited for his usual orders. Captain Bravado gazed with steely eyes upon the vast armada arrayed against his ship, and without fear, turned and calmly shouted, "Get me my brown pants" W5COM Tom

Music from Bob

Theatre Organ Society of San Diego is hosting, Bob Heil on February 26th at the Trinity Church, 3902 Kenwood Drive, Spring Valley, 3PM. He will be giving a concert of organ music. IT WILL NOT BE CHURCH MUSIC. "POP" Music will be the program. The Admission / Donation of \$5.00 at the door.

For more information contact KG6PRO
Charlie or Jackie Porter at (619) 286-9979

Prize Table Needs Help

Thank you for your contributions to the Prize Table! We still need your Support and Help or it may just end up a thing of the past. To Help, contact WA6PPG Carl Ferree at 328-2694 e-mail at cferree@IEEE.ORG

Things to keep in mind

Get on the El Cajon ARC Reflector

To sign up visit:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/elcajonarc/>

You will get the latest news about The Club and things going on in the Ham world.

Quote of the Month

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

- Aesop, *The Lion and the Mouse*

SANTEE DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET

10990 Woodside Ave., North
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 449-SWAP
Ham Radio, Computers, Electronics
ACRES & ACRES OF BARGAINS
1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month
GATES OPEN 6:30 AM

Crest Radio Museum

Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ



"COLLECTIONS"

Besides generally trying to collect every Amateur Radio ever made on a poverty budget, the museum has specialized collections, or trying to have one of each in an area of interest.

The first collection is Code Practice Oscillators. Shown are several Heathkits, Ameco, Bud, Knightkit, Lafayette, Realistic, Palomar and also several Keyers and special Keys. Not shown is an UNBUILT Ameco CPO. This is probably a complete collection of all ever made.

Next is The VHF Converter collection. All the Ameco Converters and VHF preamps are shown, along with the rare converter switchbox. The Heathkit 6 and 2 converters went on the back of the SB-301. Also are some Tapetone, Parks and Tecraft converters. There are a few more makes out there, so still collecting in this category.

Finally is the Heathkit Broadcast Portable collection. This includes the very rare OXFORD made for England and having British broadcast frequency coverage. There are only a few Portables left to obtain, but they go for a hefty price.

Collections are a fun way to have a mini Museum without overtaking the whole house like has happened in Crest. GOOD NEWS!! WA6BEN, turning 18, moved out and his Ex-room has been turned into the Library for the thousands of manuals and ARRL publications. MAD WIFE!! At least there is more room in the radio shack and living room (but you would never know it!)

WA6MHZ Pat



Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul

"Shelter for Battered Rigs"

Turmoil and change have shaken the ranks of our hobby in recent years. Controversy over incentive licensing, the role of the code, and concern over the dwindling ranks of our hobby have caused angst and sown the seeds of division among hams, young and old. Now, with the decline of Cycle 23 upon us, it is time for a healing catharsis for our hobby, with "Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul".

Finally, a service sure to appeal to today's stressed-out Ham, balancing demands of a full-time job with the added pressure of complicated, solid state radios. Introducing a new concept in Ham Radio ownership from the ARRL - *Ham Radio Shelter for Battered Rigs™*.

Simultaneously juggling the demands of contesting, traffic handling, public service, and other Ham pursuits has never been easy. Add the befuddling complexity of IC-based Ham rigs and you have a dangerous mix for emotionally "at risk" Hams. These are Hams who bring a history of violent reaction to sometimes annoying, menu-based electronics. These Hams know their first impulse is to reach for the sledgehammer when blocked by a dead-end, IC-based menu. These Hams are truly "at risk".

A new service from the ARRL - *Ham Radio Shelter for Battered Rigs™* was designed specifically for these "at risk" Hams. *Ham Radio Shelter for Battered Rigs™* was explained to members of the Ham media by League spokesperson Terry Jennings-Hargsgood-Bergroyne-Hasselflat. "Today's emphasis on operating in accordance with Part 97, while QSLing 100%, is placing increasing demands on modern Hams of the new millennium" says Jennings-Hargsgood-Bergroyne-Hasselflat. "*Ham Radio Shelter for Battered Rigs™* is designed to be of service when the risk is greatest". Jennings-Hargsgood-Bergroyne-Hasselflat gives a real-life example, based on actual case studies from the files of the ARRL.

You're stressed after a long day at the office. Telephone calls, meetings, interruptions. Arriving home, you're greeted by every Ham's worst nightmare – the architectural committee. They have questions and you have blank looks. You manage to "give them the slip" with something about "solving all of their problems with duct tape".

Chicken Noole Soup Continued

Finally alone, you slip in front of your rig to savor a few minutes of cherished operation. Slowly, you tune about the bands. Then suddenly, right there on 20, you can't believe your ears – it's VK2IRI, the Sandbox Reef DXpedition! It's your chance to "bag" the rare one! Quickly checking your SWR, you pounce! A chorus of voices answers you - "Wrong VFO!", "He's not listening here!" or remarks to that effect. Armed with your call, the "DX policemen" set about to smear your good name, announcing on *Newsline* that you are "dumber than a bucket of rocks".

You can't believe it! Another blown opportunity for fame and recognition. Your Henwood MVP 2000 has once again let you down. Suddenly, you realize your mistake. You simultaneously adjusted the receiver volume, turned the main dial, *and* exhaled. You inadvertently put the MVP 2000 into "split-split-split" mode! Your natural reaction – *go postal*. Take it out on that newfangled, hard to operate rig! You reach for your trusty sledgehammer. But wait! Taking it out on your rig could emotionally scar its IC's for life. This time, there's a better way!

Realizing you may do something you might regret later, you pick up the phone and dial the League's toll free 1-800-COOL-OFF crisis response center. Your call is quickly answered by an empathetic, knowing, and emotionally certified graduate of the Hiram Percy Maxim School of Electronic Psychology. The soothing voice on the other end talks you into putting away the hammer. As the call progresses, the latest APRS technology automatically dispatches an ARRL-Certified Electronic Psychologist to your shack. The psychologist, who has demonstrated the ability to send and receive CW at 20 words-per-minute, *Steps in Before the Trouble Begins™*. You willingly turn over your MVP 2000 to the ARRL representative, confident that your electronic companion is in good hands. Later, after you have regained your composure, your cherished rig can be picked up in a supportive and non-judgmental environment, no questions asked. Once again, the "caring team" at the ARRL steps in to be of service.

"ARRL - When You Need Them, They're There for You™".

"Morris Code AZ6CW" 6

The Right to Tower Letters from Howard White

This column is designed to help Howard White KY6LA keep his HF antenna from been removed and/or altered at his place of residence in La Jolla. Howard has a Yahoo group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SDDisasterDefense/> and a web site at <http://www.ky6la.com/> please visit them for more details about the story, and pictures of the antenna in question.

It starts with one, modification and/or antenna restriction and moves on to two, three, four, and someone. We need to support Howard in any way that we can because we do have a right to have an HF antenna at our place of residence. Local HF has been used to help out in the recent Tsunami, fires, hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, and Storms. Just because some of these disasters do not help them locally, that does not mean we can not help out with emergency traffic, and helping to get emergency relief to where it is needed most.

Below are some of the letters so you get an idea what we are discussing about. The letters were forwarded to me by Howard White for the purpose of publish them in the Counterpoise.

Dear Mr. Peters:

I just had the opportunity to read the report 05-218 Amateur Radio Antenna Regulations http://clerkdoc.sannet.gov/RightSite/getcontent/local.pdf?DMW_OBJECTID=09001451800bbfbc which is clearly yet another disguised attempt by the City of San Diego to Prohibit Amateur Radio Antennas by instituting a prohibitively expensive Site Development Permit Process for Amateur Antennas.

Clearly such an additional regulatory burden does not "Reasonably Accommodate" amateur radio as required by both the Federal PRB-1 regulation and the equivalent State of California Law.

You would think that in these days of major natural disasters such as Katrina and the 2003 San Diego Fires, where amateur radio operators using amateur antennas provided the only communications into and out of these areas saving countless lives that the City of San Diego would work to ease antenna restrictions not make them more difficult.

Yet here goes the City of San Diego again on another attempt to make it more difficult to put up these life saving antennas.

Tower Continued

In my own case, I worked for 3 -1/2 days without sleep during Katrina using my antenna to listen for emergency messages that were being passed through the Salvation Army Radio Network on 20 and 40 meters. We were instrumental in directly saving the life of a policeman who was trapped in a building due to rising flood waters.. We provided emergency insulin to 120 victims who were trapped in a building due to rising flood waters. We were instrumental in feeding and sheltering people who had lost everything. The point being... that all local communications in the area had failed.. and Amateurs such as myself who had antennas that could hear the victims were the only ones who could communicate...and direct help to those who needed it...

You also seem to forget the 2003 San Diego Fires.. Cell Phone failed... land Line Telephones failed... Police and Fire radio were at best overwhelmed and at worst totally failed... the 800 MHz trunked radio system that the emergency workers used was blocked by smoke... the only reliable communications during the fires was provided by about 500 Radio Amateurs who responded to the call for help from their fellow citizens... So our thanks for helping the City of San Diego is yet another attempt to restrict antennas...

Both the Federal Government and the State of California have recognized in their regulations that Amateur Radio Antennas provide a very valuable Public Service. Accordingly both level of governments have guaranteed our rights to antennas and prohibited local governments from making regulations that do not Reasonably Accommodate Amateur Radio...

I would hope that before you support the adoption of this prohibitive measure, you would consider the bigger picture

....

To Quote Larry Sera N6NC - a former City Attorney

"What will happen now is the City, if it has any doubts (like in La Jolla), will require the applicant to get a small development permit with all the necessary reports, fees, red tape, and delays, and input from adjoining neighbors. This will apply to all new tower permits, and may even apply to existing towers that violate the existing zoning height limits (e.g., 30 ft west of I-5). (35' in the rest fo the city)..."

So they can take our antennas away from us even though they were grandfathered and legal at the time they were built.

Continued on page 12

The A.R.E.S Connection

From Rich, N6NKJ



Happy New Year to all,
A new year is just starting, and I would like to wish all of you a wonderful and bright 2006.

We have our first event for 2006, and it is an orienteering challenge out at Ocotillo Wells, I have forgotten the dates, but if you contact Dave, KC6YSO, www.amsat.org, he can tell you the dates.

Also, Tuck Miller, NZ6T, is working on a plan like the one the ARES group in Orange County has. This will mean that a lot of us old retarded, or retired folks would need to help out during the week, and those who work, would take over during the week-ends.

On several occasions, construction crews have torn up the phone lines in front of some of the hospitals in Orange County; ARES had come in and provided internal and external communications until repairs were made.

I just hope that if I am in a hospital where this should happen, I would feel much better knowing there is a back up plan; how about you?

As far as CDF (California Department of Forestry) goes, there is nothing to report. I will be speaking with Roxanne about holding another Wildland fire and safety course.

Please remember our men and women who serve our great country, remember, **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE!**

Until next time, enjoy life, stay safe, and be happy.

Rich, N6NKJ

Tower Continued

I attended the San Diego Council Meeting and spoke to the issue about new regulations for Hams...

Interestingly enough the main antagonists were 9 of my neighbors, their lawyer and another guy from La Jolla who wanted a 200' longwire removed from another La Jolla Ham's house.

My neighbors lawyer took the position that the current 30' height limit was in effect and that the City erred in giving ANYONE a permit that exceeded 30' so he opposed new regulations that might give anyone an antenna over 30' as that would blow up his theory that he would use to get rid of my tower...

The council voted to instruct staff to draft new ordinance... I asked to be put on the list of people to be informed The council.. especially Donna Frye wanted 30' to be in the ordinance...but speaking to a staffer .. they likely will copy Poway (35') when Poway finishes on 12.06.05... Clearly this is too low a height for effective communications on 20M and 40M communications... as the laws of physics dictate the need for higher antennas...I would suggest that 70' would be an ideal minimum...

The other major problem with the proposal as it now stands is that you are going to have to get a Site Development Permit for virtually every antenna... These are extremely expensive things full of red tape and expensive engineering and environmental studies and nosey neighbors...

We need to put together a committee to represent San Diego Hams with a single strong consistent voice...so that the City Engineers would hear us...

The only good news is that the new Land Use and Housing Chairman is going to be Jim McDaffer who just happens to be a ham....

New Member to our Club

Eliseo Sisneros

K5ERS WAMO #1687

Thanks to all who have renewed. Please check the expiration date on your Counterpoise, and take a moment to complete and return the membership renewal application located in the Counterpoise if yours has expired.

Membership Chairperson

KC6TBG Ann



ARCEC Christmas Dinner Photos



Photos by: KD6PRV Anselmo & Bridget

More Photos



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Is your membership ready to expire?

Take a look on your mailing label. Is the expiration date in 2005? Does it say EXPIRED? That means it's time to mail in your yearly dues. Please take time to fill out the membership application in this newsletter, and mail it in, or bring it to the next meeting.



Amateur Radio ... A National Resource